

RESEARCH PROJECT GUIDELINES (RSP441q)

**To successfully complete this course, you will need to do the following in the order given.
Be sure to have each step signed off by your advisor as you proceed.**

Date Due or Approved	Advisor Signature	Step
_____	_____	Meet with your advisor and set deadlines for each of these required steps.
_____	_____	Select a general topic which is relevant to midwifery. Topic:
_____	_____	Advisor approves topic.
_____	_____	Formulate a general research question. This is a general question about your topic that your paper will answer. Question:
_____	_____	Advisor approves question.
_____	_____	Create an outline of your research paper. Include all sections of your paper:
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction — include Topic/Hypothesis question. This becomes a statement as you conclude your Review of the Literature. • Review of the Literature — Summary of current research from experts and includes definitions of all terms • Research Design — Who, when, where, and how • Research Findings — Analysis of the data you collected • Recommendations — A recommended plan of action(s) based on findings • Discussion — Need for further study, new or open questions, problems with your process or that arose, etc. • Conclusion — Must answer (prove/disprove) your Topic/Hypothesis statement
_____	_____	Preliminary Outline approved by advisor. Additional drafts due:
_____	_____	Final Outline approved by advisor.
_____	_____	Conduct a thorough literature search on your research topic. Review the published work and search for experts in the field that may have unpublished work.
		Ultimately, your bibliography/ Reference page must include a minimum of eight citations from original sources in addition to all other sources you cite in your paper. <u>Four sources must be published within the last four years</u> unless special approval is issued by your advisor due to the nature of your topic.
	_____	Special waiver approved.
		Create a citation and article/literature review/summary (minimum 1 paragraph) for each source. Place key research points into your Outline as you read through the literature and create your reviews.
_____	_____	Literature review sources (minimum of 8 citations with summaries) approved.
_____	_____	Formulate a specific research Topic/Thesis//Hypothesis Statement based on what you learned from your literature reviews. Your Thesis Statement must be original in nature. It should provide new insight into a known topic or open up a new midwifery topic. This is a statement/sentence not a question. Thesis:
_____	_____	Research Topic Statement/Hypothesis approved by advisor.
_____	_____	Write your Introduction . Additional drafts due:
_____	_____	Introduction approved by advisor.
_____	through _____	Write your Review of the Literature . Additional drafts due:
_____	_____	Review of the Literature approved by advisor.

(You can begin your **Reference** page as you cite within your **Review of the Literature**.)

References page approved by advisor **through the Review of the Literature.**
Additional drafts due:

**Date Due
or Approved**

Advisor Signature

Step

Create a **Research Design** to investigate your **Thesis Statement**. Include methods and tools such as surveys, questionnaires, mailings, group discussions/focus groups, organizing a prototype class, or other methods. **Be specific.** Include the number of interviews, description of participants in study, and the expected number of responses, etc. **Research Tool Type:**

Additional drafts due:
Research Design approved by advisor.

Create and test **Research Tool**.

Revise and re-test **Research Tool**.
Additional revisions/tests due:

Research Tool approved by advisor.

through _____

Conduct **Research**.

Discuss and analyze and **Research data** with advisor.
Research data approved by advisor.

Continue writing research paper.

Research Findings/Analysis — Tabulation and analysis of data collected through your Research Tool. Findings should correlate to Research Tool points and concepts mentioned/questioned in Review of the Literature. Analysis must reflect parameters of your Research Design. Additional drafts due:

Research Findings/Analysis approved by advisor.

Recommendations — A recommended plan of action(s) based on findings. Additional drafts due:

Recommendations approved by advisor.

Discussion — need for further study, questions new or left open, problems. Additional drafts due:

Discussion approved by advisor.

Conclusion — must answer (prove/disprove) your Topic/Hypothesis statement. Additional drafts due:

Conclusion approved by advisor.

Compile your Research Project into its final form. Final paper guidelines are:

- **Cover Page** with title of paper; your name, term and year submitted, name of school, name of advisor, and date accepted. (See the attached Cover Page example). An original signature from your advisor is required.
- **Body of Paper: Minimum of 15 pages:** Single sided, doubled spaced with 3/4 inch margins. Use a **10-12 pt. standard**, non-decorative font (e.g. Times, Arial, Helvetica). Use **indented paragraphs** with no spacing between paragraphs. Use consecutive **page numbers** for the body of your page. Begin with your first page.
- **References page(s)**— lists the works cited in your paper. These sources are listed numerically by their appearance in your text. Use a minimum of eight original source citations in AMA format. Please refer to the Birthingway AMA Style Guide for details. Four sources cited must be within the last four years unless waived by advisor.
- **Appendix** — Includes copies of the supporting material used in your Research Project. Such items include: literature/article reviews, research tool sample, interview schedules and transcripts, completed surveys and/or questionnaires, tallies of data, protocols or supplemental materials described in your Recommendations, etc.
It does not include copies of the articles you used in your Review of the Literature.

Advisor _____ Student Name _____

Submit first draft of paper.

Submit second draft incorporating changes/revisions from first draft.

Submit third draft incorporating changes/revisions from second draft.

Final paper approved. Congratulations!